

5th Sunday after Holy Cross
الأحد الخامس بعد عيد الصليب

Keep awake therefore,
for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Matthew 25:13



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

You are welcomed & loved by St Anthony's Maronite Church Community
We are transformed through prayer, acts of love, forgiveness, service & stewardship

PARISH OFFICE: 978-685-7233
E-mail: rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

FAX: 978-688-4475

Website: stanthonylawrence.org

Address: 145 Amesbury Street, Lawrence, MA 01841

LITURGIES INTENTIONS

5th Sunday After Holy Cross

Saturday, October 18 (Eng)

St. Luke the Evangelist

4:00 pm +Joseph Russo & the Deceased
Members of the Ferris, Martin &
Carpenter Families, *By Zakia Russo*

Sunday, October 19

St. Aaron of Antioch

Sts. John de Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues, and Companions

8:00 am Private Intention

9:30 am +Mark Alliegro & Deceased Members of
the Alliegro Family, & Deacon Allan &
Alice Ramey, *By their Family*

11:00 am +Romanos Nammour & Emilia
Boufaisal, *By Marie Nammour & Family*

5:00 pm +Dr. Chaker Samaan, *By his brother Dr.
& Mrs. Mauhanad & Grace Samaan &
their Family*, +Fadi Youssef

Sunday of Christ the King

Saturday, October 25 (Eng)

St. Chrysanthus and His Wife Daria

10:00 am Ordination of Subdeacon George
Merheb

4:00 pm +Carol Hatem, *By Fred & Lorry Ganem*

Sunday, October 26

St. Demetrius

8:00 am Private Intention

9:30 am Private Intention

11:00 am +Elias & Wadad Feghali, *By their
Children & their Families*

Daily Liturgies

Monday, October 20

St. Shallita

1 Cor 1:1-9/Lk 16:1-12

9:00 am +Boutros Merheb, *By Mr. & Mrs.
George Merheb & Family*

Tuesday, October 21

St. Hilarion of Tabatha

1 Cor 1:10-17/Lk 18:1-8

9:00 am Private Intention

Wednesday, October 22

Pope St. John Paul II (+2005)

1 Cor 1:26-31/Lk 19:11-28

9:00 am In Honor of Abouna Maroon Bou
Khalil, *By Kozhaya & Lola Aboukhalil*

Thursday, October 23

St. Ignatius, Patriarch of Constantinople

1 Cor 3:10-23/Mk 4:21-25

9:00 am +Antoine Abou Ezzi, *By his Children &
their Families*
+Larry & Dora M. Pereira, *By Dora
Pereira*

Friday, October 24 - OFFICE CLOSED

St. Arethas (Hares) and His Companions

1 Cor 4:1-13/Mk 4:26-29

NO LITURGY



SANCTUARY LAMPS

In Memory of Romanos Nammour,
By his wife, Marie, & Family

In Memory of Emilia Boufaisal,
By her sister, Marie Nammour, nieces, nephews & their Families



PASTOR'S CORNER

Keep Your Lamps Burning

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday's Gospel invites us to reflect on one of the most beautiful and challenging parables Jesus ever told — the story of the ten bridesmaids. Five were wise and five were foolish. The difference between them was not in their desire to meet the bridegroom — all of them wanted to — but in their *preparation*.

The oil in the lamps represents the inner fire of faith and love that keeps our hearts ready for Christ's coming. Saint Augustine explained that the oil symbolizes *charity — the love that cannot be borrowed or shared at the last moment because it must be cultivated personally throughout life (Sermon 93). We may receive sacraments, prayers, and teachings from others, but no one can love God for us. The flame of faith must burn in our own hearts.*

The wise bridesmaids represent those who live in a constant relationship with God, whose faith is nourished daily through prayer, the sacraments, and acts of love. The foolish ones remind us that faith without perseverance becomes a weak and empty lamp. It is not enough to have been once faithful; we must *remain faithful until the end*.

The delay of the bridegroom, a symbol of Christ's apparent absence, tests our endurance. It is easy to believe when everything shines bright, but wisdom is shown in those who keep their lamp burning even in the long night of waiting. Pope Francis once said, "*Christian hope is not passive; it is an active vigilance that keeps love alive even when the Lord seems delayed*" (Angelus, Nov. 8, 2020).

The tragedy of the foolish bridesmaids was not that they slept — everyone did — but that they were not prepared. The door was shut not because God is harsh, but because the time of preparation had passed.

Let us then keep the lamp of our hearts filled with the oil of love, faith, and mercy. Let us not delay our conversion or postpone forgiveness. The Bridegroom will come — at an hour we do not expect — and blessed are those whom He finds ready.

My beloved brothers and sisters, always remember:

a lamp without oil is a soul without love, keep your lamps burning, not by fear, but by love.

In Christ's love,

Fr. Neemtallah (Edgard) Oneissy

OFFICE HOURS:

M-TH 10:00 am-3:00 pm

FRI OFFICE CLOSED

SAT By Appointment

DAILY LITURGIES @ 9 am

MON & WED (Ar)

TUE & THU (Eng)

WEEKEND LITURGIES

SAT 4 pm (Eng)

SUN 8am(Ar) 9:30 am (Eng)

11 am (Eng.& Ar)

Holy days of obligation:

Vigil Liturgy @ 7:00 pm

MEET OUR PRIESTS:

Chorbishop Elie Mikhael

(305) 807-9087

Fr. Edgard -Neemtallah- Oneissy

pastor@stanthonylawrence.org

MEET OUR DEACONS:

Nadim Daou, James T. Demers,

& David Leard

Sub-Deacon: Antoine Nammour

CLERGY DAY OFF

Fr. Neemtallah: **Fridays**

SACRAMENTS

Baptism & Confirmation:

1 month in advance with the Pastor,

Donations: Church: \$200

Priest: Free Will

Matrimony: Arrangements should be made by couples six months prior to the wedding date

Donations: Church \$500

Priest: Free Will

Reconciliation: One hour Before Thursday & Saturday Liturgies, or by appointment

Anointing of the Sick: Please notify the Rectory if a member of your family is ill, hospitalized, or unable to come to Church and would like to receive communion at home.

Please refer to our website for more Sacrament Celebrations Guidelines.

OBSERVANCES

FEAST OF ALL SAINTS - *Holy Day of Obligation* - Saturday, November 1, 2025 - Liturgy @ 4pm
CONSECRATION OF THE CHURCH/ALL SOULS DAY - Sunday, November 2, 2025 -
to be celebrated at Sunday Morning Liturgies
VETERANS' DAY - Tuesday, November 11, 2025 - No Liturgy - Office Closed
THANKSGIVING - Thursday, November 27, 2025 - No Liturgy - Office Closed

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Upcoming Session:

Saturday, October 25 @ 5 - 7 pm

Please visit our website for the yearly calendar

www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form/



MYO & Jr MYO

UPCOMING EVENT

Sunday, October 26 @ 5 - 7pm
Halloween Party

HELP INSPIRE THE NEXT GENERATION

Do you enjoy working with kids and sharing your faith in a fun, uplifting way? Our Religious Education program is looking for enthusiastic substitute teachers to join our team!

Whether you can help once in a while or more regularly, your presence makes a big difference. You'll bring fresh energy and creativity to our classrooms-and help our students grow in faith and joy.

If you'd like to learn more or get involved, please reach out to LawrenceReligious@gmail.com.

We'd love to have you on board!



DAUGHTERS OF SAINT ANTHONY

"The Oldest Organization of St. Anthony's Church"

Next Meeting: THURSDAY, November 6 @ 12pm

The Daughters of St. Anthony is the oldest organization of the parish. We encourage all women ages 50 and older to join us. Our meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month from 12:00 noon to 2:00pm. Meetings begin with a prayer followed by lunch and discussing ideas of how we can help the parish and then we do some fun things.

If you plan to join us on Thursday, November 6th, please contact Elaine Ferris at 978-273-9772, Christine Hassan at 978-927-9913, or Katy Abraham at 978-314-1508 by Tuesday, November 3rd so that we can have an accurate food count.

We look forward to renewing old friendships and forming new ones.

KNIGHTS OF MARY

Upcoming Session:

Saturday, October 18 @ 5 - 7 pm

www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form-4/

KNIGHTS OF THE ALTAR

Be a Knight of the Altar - Register online:

www.stanthonylawrence.org/application/

CONGRATULATIONS!

On Your New Baby

Laylana Belle Aboujaoude

Daughter of

Charbel & Tatiana (Ramy) Aboujaoude

*"Children are a gift from the Lord;
they are a reward from him." Psalm 127:3*

CONGRATULATIONS!

Baptized & Confirmed

Noor Elise Hitti

daughter of

Antoine & Joelle (Yammine) Hitti

*"Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but
whoever does not believe will be condemned."*

~Mark 16:16

BIRTHDAY WISHES

October 18: Alysha Assaf, Doreen Hamman, Paul Ndaira, Leyla Saouma

October 19: Rami Ata, Rayan Bourouphael, Carl Fiacchino, Jacqueline Mansor III, Joseph Nassar, Leah Salem

October 20: Jad Alam, Michael Davis, Randa Harb, Shannon Hassan, Elie Kazzi, Vanessa Khalife, Habouba Mouawad, Wissam Tarabay

October 21: Lili Bijjani, Fadi Bouchrouche, Anthony Hayek, Kristen Korbani, Georgio Kossaifi, Michael Merheb, Allan Ramey, Marita Ramey, Kevork Yeremian

October 22: Robyn Harb, Tony Kassas, Kaleigh Maroon, James Maroun, Norma Matar, James Pehl, Joseph Perrone, Mounir Rizkallah, Renee Saad, Elie Tabet, Matthew Tarness

October 23: Christopher Korbani, James Salem, Albert Ziade

October 24: Mary Anne Alliegro, Jane Azzi

ANNIVERSARY WISHES

October 18: Jean & Lara Kossaifi, William & Toni McKone

October 19: Charbel & Jeannette Maroun, Jihad & Georjina Maroun

October 20: Sleiman & Hala Ramy

October 23: Henry & Eleanor Abi-Moussa, Elias & Yulissa Azzi, George & Cynthia Kazanjian

October 24: Roger & Diane Feghali, Kenneth & Linda Gabriel

THIS WEEKEND 2ND COLLECTION

World Mission Sunday

WEEKLY CONTRIBUTIONS

10/12/2025

Candles	\$1,063.00
Sunday Collection	\$2,634.00
Utilities, Fuel & Electricity	\$75.00
Donations	\$650.00
	\$4,422.00

Thank you for your generous support to our parish. Please remember to remit your Fuel/Utilities Envelope. Your contribution helps us keep the heat on in the Winter and the AC on in the Summer.

Thank you!

WHAT DO YOU SEEK?

(JN 1:38)

THE MARONITE SEMINARY PRESENTS

A Weekend Of Discernment

**AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCERN GOD'S CALL
IN YOUR LIFE**

Discernment Weekend—October 31 to November 2

Are you discerning a vocation to the priesthood or religious life? The **Maronite Seminary** and **Mother of the Light Convent** are hosting a **Discernment Weekend** from **October 31 to November 2**.

Flyers with more information are available in the foyer. Please speak with Abouna if you have any questions.



**The Meelad Christmas Sook
is a joyful three-day
Christmas Bazaar & Market, hosted by
Saint Anthony Church in Lawrence, MA.
145 Amesbury Street, Lawrence, MA 01841**



"MEELAD" CHRISTMAS SOOK

**The Meelad Christmas Sook
will host Vendors displaying crafts, artworks, artisan goods,
homemade packaged goods, services.**

**Features: Raffle, Baskets, Entertainment,
Christmas tree exhibition and many more surprises.**



**Friday, December 12 (4-9 pm),
Saturday, December 13 (12-6 pm),
Sunday, December 14, 2025 (9 am - 6 pm).**

**The Sook event
is a part of our "Meelad Christmas Festival",
which will include:
Annual Christmas Recitals,
Kids Activities, Tree Lighting,
Live Entertainment, Food and Beverages.**

Stay tuned, more information to follow.



BE PART OF OUR MINISTRIES

Religious Education

www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form/

Maronite Youth Organization –MYO

www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form-2/

Maronite Young Adults –MYA

Please email the Parish to add your name to the MYA Group: rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

Knights of Mary –KOM

www.stanthonylawrence.org/registration-form-4/

Knights of the Altars

www.stanthonylawrence.org/application/

In addition our Parish takes pride and invites you to be part of the other ministries such as:

- *Daughters of St Anthony*
- *Our Lady of Lebanon Sodality*
- *Sunshine Committee*
- *M-Wine*
- *Bereavement Ministry*
- *Ushers*
- *Men's Ministry*

TREE OF LIFE

BRASS ALUMINUM PLAQUES SIZES:

1.5" X 3" = \$75 / 3" X 6" = \$150 / 4" X 8" = \$250

Please submit your request either by

Phone: 978.685.7233 or by E-mail:

rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

SAINT ANTHONY CEMETERY

Grave Purchase & Burial

St Anthony Cemetery offers affordable payment plans to fit any family's budget.

For more information:

By Phone (*During Office Hours*) 978-685-7233

Email rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

or Visit: stanthonylawrence.org/lots-sales/

Cemetery Guidelines

www.stanthonylawrence.org/cemetery/

Headstones & Cemetery Markers

Kindly review the information provided regarding acceptable dimensions per grave/lot on our website:

stanthonylawrence.org/lots-sales/.

Please note:

Double-Depth Graves are considered "One Grave Size"

Looking for a Loved one buried at St Anthony's Cemetery?

1. Go to www.stanthonylawrence.org
2. Scroll to the bottom and click on BURIAL ONLINE SEARCH.
3. Type in the last/first name or in some cases just last name and click search.

DONATE A TREE- IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE

Enhancing the beauty of Historic Saint Anthony Maronite Catholic Cemetery.

Plant-A-Tree A— *For a donation of \$400.00:* memorial plaque displayed for ten years.

Plant-A-Tree B—*For a donation of \$250.00:* memorial plaque displayed for five years.

Your Donation is Tax-Deductible

If you like to donate a tree, please call the office at 978.685.7233 or email us at:

rectory@stanthonylawrence.org

Tree to be planted: Kousa Dogwood

MASS INTENTIONS

Liturgies are offered for many reasons:

- ♦ For the souls in purgatory
- ♦ In remembrance of our loved ones who are deceased
- ♦ In honor of someone's birthday
- ♦ Special anniversary, and more.

Liturgy stipend or offering given, signifies the sacrificial nature of giving something of yourself to associate more intimately with Christ who offers himself in the Eucharist.

Please contact the Parish Office to book your mass intentions or for more inquiries.

5th Sunday after Holy Cross***Song of Songs 5: 2-8***

I slept, but my heart was awake. Listen! my beloved is knocking. 'Open to me, my sister, my love, my dove, my perfect one; for my head is wet with dew, my locks with the drops of the night.' I had put off my garment; how could I put it on again? I had bathed my feet; how could I soil them? My beloved thrust his hand into the opening, and my inmost being yearned for him. I arose to open to my beloved, and my hands dripped with myrrh, my fingers with liquid myrrh, upon the handles of the bolt. I opened to my beloved, but my beloved had turned and was gone. My soul failed me when he spoke. I sought him, but did not find him; I called him, but he gave no answer. Making their rounds in the city the sentinels found me; they beat me, they wounded me, they took away my mantle, those sentinels of the walls. I adjure you, O daughters of Jerusalem, if you find my beloved, tell him this: I am faint with love.

Letter to the Philippians 2: 12-18

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Do all things without murmuring and arguing, so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world. It is by your holding fast to the word of life that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labour in vain. But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and the offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you and in the same way you also must be glad and rejoice with me.

Holy Gospel of Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew 25: 1-13

Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise replied, "No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves." And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

LECTORS SCHEDULE*Saturday, October 18*

4:00 pm - Lisa Abdallah

Sunday, October 19

8:00 am - Hugette Sfeir

9:30 am - Joey Safi

11:00 am - (Eng) Elias Azzi

(Ar) Sub-deacon Antoine Nammour

LECTORS SCHEDULE*Saturday, October 25*

4:00 pm - Susan Kalil

Sunday, October 26

8:00 am - Mouna Hbaiter

9:30 am - August Sfeir

11:00 am - (Eng) Angela Dahbour

(Ar) Giselle Dahbour

الأحد الخامس بعد عيد الصليب

سفر نشيد الأنشيد 5: 2-8

إِنِّي نَائِمَةٌ وَقَلْبِي مُسْتَيْقِظٌ إِذَا بَصَوْتُ حَبِيبِي قَارِعًا أَنْ إِفْتَحِي لِي يَا أُخْتِي يَا خَلِيلَتِي يَا حَمَامَتِي يَا كَامِلَتِي فَإِنَّ رَأْسِي قَدْ امْتَلَأَ مِنَ النَّدَى وَخَصَائِلِي مِنْ قَطْرَاتِ اللَّيْلِ. قَدْ نَزَعْتُ ثَوْبِي فَكَيْفَ أَلْبِسُهُ؟ قَدْ غَسَلْتُ رِجْلِي فَكَيْفَ أُوَسِّخُهُمَا؟ حَبِيبِي أَرْسَلَ يَدَهُ مِنَ الثَّقَبِ فَتَحَرَّكَتْ لَهُ أَحْشَائِي. فَكُفْتُ لِأَفْتَحَ لِحَبِيبِي وَكَانَتْ يَدَايَ تَقْطُرَانِ مُرًّا وَأَصَابِعِي بِالْمُرِّ السَّائِلِ عَلَى مِقْبَضِ الْمِزْلَاجِ. فَفَتَحْتُ لِحَبِيبِي لَكِنَّ حَبِيبِي وَلَّى وَمَضَى. نَفْسِي فَاضَتْ مِنْ تَوَارِيهِ التَّمَسُّهُ فَمَا وَجَدْتُهُ وَدَعَوْتُهُ فَلَمْ يُجِبْنِي. صَادَفَنِي الْحُرَّاسُ الطَّائِفُونَ فِي الْمَدِينَةِ فَضَرَبُونِي وَجَرَحُونِي وَحُرَّاسَ الْأَسْوَارِ نَزَعُوا عَنِّي رِدَائِي. اسْتَحْلَفُكَ يَا بَنَاتِ أُورُشَلِيمَ: إِنْ وَجَدْتُنَّ حَبِيبِي بِمَاذَا تُخْبِرْنَهُ؟ بَأَنَّ الْحُبَّ قَدْ أَسْقَمَنِي.

رسالة القديس بولس إلى أهل فيلبّي 2: 12-18

يَا إِخْوَتِي، اِعْمَلُوا لِحِلَاصِكُمْ بِخَوْفٍ وَرَعْدَةٍ، كَمَا أَطَعْتُمْ دَائِمًا، لَا فِي حُضُورِي فَحَسَبَ، بَلْ بِالْأُخْرَى وَبِالْأَكْثَرِ الْآنَ فِي غِيَابِي. فَاللَّهُ هُوَ الَّذِي يَجْعَلُكُمْ تُرِيدُونَ وَتَعْمَلُونَ بِحَسَبِ مَرْضَاتِهِ. اِفْعَلُوا كُلَّ شَيْءٍ بِغَيْرِ تَذَمُّرٍ وَجِدَالٍ، لِكِي تَصِيرُوا بَسْطَاءَ لَا لَوْمَ عَلَيْكُمْ، وَأَبْنَاءَ لِلَّهِ لَا عَيْبَ فِيكُمْ، وَسَطَ جِيلٍ مُعَوِّجٍ وَمُنْحَرِفٍ، تُضَيُّونَ فِيهِ كَالنُّيِّرَاتِ فِي الْعَالَمِ، مُتَمَسِّكِينَ بِكَلِمَةِ الْحَيَاةِ، لِأَفْتِخَارِي فِي يَوْمِ الْمَسِيحِ، بِأَنِّي مَا سَعَيْتُ وَلَا تَعَبْتُ بَاطِلًا. لَوْ أَنَّ دَمِي يُرَاقُ عَلَى ذَبِيحَةِ إِيمَانِكُمْ وَخِدْمَتِهِ، لَكُنْتُ أَفْرَحُ وَأَبْتَهِجُ مَعَكُمْ جَمِيعًا. فَأَفْرَحُوا أَنْتُمْ أَيْضًا وَأَبْتَهِجُوا مَعِي.

إنجيل القديس متى 25: 1-13

قَالَ الرَّبُّ يَسُوعُ: «يُشَبِّهُهُ مَلَكُوتُ السَّمَاوَاتِ عَشْرَ عَذَارَى أَخَذْنَ مَصَابِيحَهُنَّ وَخَرَجْنَ إِلَى لِقَاءِ الْعَرِيسِ، خَمْسٌ مِنْهُنَّ جَاهِلَاتٌ، وَخَمْسٌ حَكِيمَاتٌ. فَالْجَاهِلَاتُ أَخَذْنَ مَصَابِيحَهُنَّ وَلَمْ يَأْخُذْنَ مَعَهُنَّ زَيْتًا. أَمَّا الْحَكِيمَاتُ فَأَخَذْنَ زَيْتًا فِي أَنْيَّةٍ مَعَ مَصَابِيحِهِنَّ. وَأَبْطَأَ الْعَرِيسُ فَتَنَعَسْنَ جَمِيعُهُنَّ، وَرَقَدْنَ. وَفِي مُنْتَصَفِ اللَّيْلِ، صَارَتِ الصَّيْحَةُ: هُودَا الْعَرِيسُ! أَخْرُجُوا إِلَى لِقَائِهِ! حِينَئِذٍ قَامَتْ أُولَئِكَ الْعَذَارَى كُلُّهُنَّ، وَزَيَّنَّ مَصَابِيحَهُنَّ. فَقَالَتِ الْجَاهِلَاتُ لِلْحَكِيمَاتِ: أَعْطِينَا مِنْ زَيْتِكُنَّ، لِأَنَّ مَصَابِيحَنَا تَنْطَفِئُ. فَأَجَابَتِ الْحَكِيمَاتُ وَقُلْنَ: قَدْ لَا يَكْفِينَا وَيَكْفِيكُنَّ. إِذْهَبْنَ بِالْأُخْرَى إِلَى الْبَاعَةِ وَأَبْتَغْنَ لَكُنَّ. وَلَمَّا ذَهَبْنَ لِيَبْتَغْنَ، جَاءَ الْعَرِيسُ، وَدَخَلَتِ الْمُسْتَعِدَّاتُ إِلَى الْعُرْسِ، وَأَغْلَقَ الْبَابَ. وَأَخِيرًا جَاءَتِ الْعَذَارَى الْبَاقِيَاتُ وَقُلْنَ: يَا رَبُّ، يَا رَبُّ، أَفْتَحْ لَنَا! فَأَجَابَ وَقَالَ: الْحَقُّ أَقُولُ لَكُنَّ، إِنِّي لَا أَعْرِفُكُمْ! اِسْهَرُوا إِذَا، لِأَنَّكُمْ لَا تَعْلَمُونَ الْيَوْمَ وَلَا السَّاعَةَ.

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